

What is claimed is:

1. A system comprising:

a blade device; and

chassis management logic, the chassis management logic to determine whether one or more capabilities associated with the blade device match a capability policy.

2. The system of claim 1, further comprising:

a data communication pathway coupled to the blade device and to the chassis management logic.

3. The system of claim 1, wherein:

the chassis management logic is further to isolate the blade device from a computing domain responsive to determining that the blade device capabilities do not match the capability policy.

4. The system of claim 1, further comprising:

a plurality of blade devices;

wherein each of the plurality of blade devices is coupled to the data communication pathway; and

1 wherein the chassis management logic is further to determine, for at least one of the  
2 plurality of blade devices, whether blade capabilities associated with the at least one blade  
3 device match the capability policy.

1 5. The system of claim 4, wherein:

2 the chassis management logic is further to isolate from the computing domain any of the  
3 plurality of blade devices whose associated capabilities do not match the capability policy.

1 6. The system of claim 1, wherein:

2 the chassis management logic is further to determine whether the blade device is trusted.

1 7. The system of claim 1, further comprising:

2 a baseboard memory controller, wherein the baseboard memory controller is to control  
3 communication between the blade device and the chassis management logic.

1 8. The system of claim 1, wherein:

2 the blade device includes logic to perform boot processing.

1 9. The system of claim 8, wherein:

2 the chassis management logic is further to generate a failure indicator value responsive to  
3 determining that the blade device capabilities do not match the capability policy; and  
4 the blade device is to, responsive to the failure indicator value, terminate the boot  
5 processing.

1  
1 10. The system of claim 1, further comprising:

2 a chassis to receive the blade device.

1  
1 11. A method comprising:

2 determining if one or more capabilities associated with a blade device match a capability  
3 policy; and

4 if the blade device capabilities do not match the capability policy, isolating the blade  
5 device from a computing domain.

1  
1 12. The method of claim 11, further comprising:

2 challenging the blade device to provide a response; and

3 if the blade device does not provide the response, isolating the blade device from the  
4 computing domain.

1  
1 13. The method of claim 11, wherein determining further comprises:

accessing a capability record associated with the blade.

14. The method of claim 11, further comprising:

maintaining in a central repository a plurality of capability records, each capability record being associated with one of a plurality of blade devices.

15. The method of claim 12, wherein challenging further comprises:

encrypting a challenge value using a public key value; and  
providing the encrypted challenge value to the blade device.

16. The method of claim 11, further comprising:

maintaining in a central repository a plurality of public key values, each of the public key values corresponding to one of a plurality of blade devices.

17. An article comprising:

a machine-readable storage medium having a plurality of machine accessible instructions, which if executed by a machine, cause the machine to perform operations comprising:

registering one or more capabilities with a central repository;  
determining if one or more capabilities associated with a blade device match a capability policy; and

7 if the blade device capabilities do not match the capability policy, isolating the blade  
8 device from a computing domain.

1  
1 18. The article of claim 17, further comprising:

2 a plurality of machine accessible instructions, which if executed by a machine, cause the  
3 machine to perform operations comprising:

4 challenging the blade device to provide a response; and

5 if the blade device does not provide the response, isolating the blade device from the  
6 computing domain.

1  
1 19. The article of claim 17, wherein:

2 the instructions that cause the machine to determine if one or more capabilities associated  
3 with a blade device match a capability policy further comprise instructions that cause the  
4 machine to access a capability record associated with the blade.

1  
1 20. The article of claim 17, further comprising:

2 a plurality of machine accessible instructions, which if executed by a machine, cause  
3 the machine to perform operations comprising:

4 maintaining in a central repository a plurality of capability records, each  
5 capability record being associated with one of a plurality of blade devices.

1        21.        The article of claim 18, wherein:

2            the instructions that cause the machine to challenge further comprise instructions that  
3        cause the machine to :

4            encrypt a challenge value using a public key value; and

5            provide the encrypted challenge value to the blade device.

1  
1        22.        The article of claim 17, further comprising:

2            a plurality of machine accessible instructions, which if executed by a machine, cause the  
3        machine to perform operations comprising:

4            maintaining in a central repository a plurality of public key values, each of the public  
5        key values corresponding to one of a plurality of blade devices.

1  
1        23.        A method comprising:

2            registering one or more capabilities with a central repository;

3            determining if a capability authorization has been received within a pre-defined timeout  
4        interval;

5            if the capability authorization has been received within the timeout interval, performing  
6        boot processing; and

7            if the capability authorization has not been received within the timeout interval, declining  
8        to perform the boot processing.

1        24.        The method of claim 23, further comprising:

2            providing a response to a challenge;

3            proceeding, if the response is correct, with boot processing; and

4            if the response is not correct, isolating from a computing domain.

1        25.        The method of claim 24, wherein:

2            providing a response further comprises decrypting a challenge value using a private key.

1        26.        The method of claim 23, wherein:

2            declining to perform the boot processing further comprise performing stand-alone boot  
3            processing.

1        27.        The method of claim 23, wherein:

2            declining to perform the boot processing further comprises powering down.

1        28.        An article comprising:

2            a machine-readable storage medium having a plurality of machine accessible instructions,  
3            which if executed by a machine, cause the machine to perform operations comprising:

4            registering one or more capabilities with a central repository;

5 determining if a capability authorization has been received within a pre-defined  
6 timeout interval;

7 if the capability authorization has been received within the timeout interval,  
8 performing boot processing; and

9 if the capability authorization has not been received within the timeout interval,  
10 declining to perform the boot processing.

1  
1 29. The article of claim 23, further comprising:

2 a plurality of machine accessible instructions, which if executed by a machine, cause the  
3 machine to perform operations comprising:

4 providing a response to a challenge;

5 proceeding, if the response is correct, with boot processing; and

6 if the response is not correct, isolating from a computing domain.

1  
1 30. The article of claim 24, wherein:

2 instructions that cause the machine to provide a response further comprise instructions  
3 that cause the machine to decrypt a challenge value using a private key.

1  
1 31. The article of claim 23, wherein:



2 instructions that cause the computer to decline to perform the boot processing further  
3 comprise instructions that cause the machine to perform stand-alone boot processing.

1  
1 32. The article of claim 23, wherein:

2 instructions that cause the computer to decline to perform the boot processing further  
3 comprise instructions that cause the machine to power down.